

Senate Resolution 977

By: Senators Heath of the 31st, Williams of the 19th, Johnson of the 1st, Moody of the 56th and Stephens of the 27th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Youth Assembly and Junior Youth Assembly programs of the State YMCA
2 of Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, every year, more than 500 high school students and 300 middle school students
4 from across Georgia converge upon Atlanta to participate in the annual sessions of the State
5 YMCA of Georgia's Youth Assembly and Junior Youth Assembly programs; and

6 WHEREAS, at these annual sessions, the students debate bills which they have researched
7 and prepared before committees of their peers and on the floors of the Youth Assembly and
8 Junior Youth Assembly House and Senate; student lobbyists present arguments in favor of
9 and against the mock legislation; student lawyers and judges argue the validity of previously
10 passed laws; and student reporters, photographers, and editors prepare and publish a
11 newspaper covering all of these events; and

12 WHEREAS, these annual sessions of the State YMCA Youth Assembly and Junior Youth
13 Assembly bring to life the lessons taught in civics courses in classrooms throughout Georgia
14 and reinforce to the students the important principle that democracy is not a spectator sport;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, the Youth Assembly and Junior Youth Assembly programs also help
17 participants develop and enhance the valuable life skills of thinking analytically, preparing
18 persuasive arguments, presenting those arguments to a large public audience, negotiating and
19 reaching consensus on difficult issues, and the basic task of showing up prepared at an
20 appointed time and place; and

21 WHEREAS, all public and private middle and high school students are now invited to
22 participate in these conferences as representatives of their respective schools; and

1 WHEREAS, the members of this body welcome the participants of Youth Assembly and
2 Junior Youth Assembly to the Capitol and Atlanta for their 2006 sessions in November.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
4 recognize and heartily commend the student participants and leaders of Youth Assembly and
5 Junior Youth Assembly for their hard work and for their interest in upholding the democratic
6 process of governing.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body also recognize and heartily
8 commend the State YMCA of Georgia, its supporters, and the adult "Y" club advisors and
9 teachers throughout this state for their hard work and dedication throughout the year which
10 makes possible the annual sessions of Youth Assembly and Junior Youth Assembly.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
12 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the State YMCA of Georgia.